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# Country programme recommendation**

## Turkey

## Addendum

*Summary*

The present addendum to the country note submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2000 contains the final country programme recommendation for Board approval.

It contains a recommendation for funding the country programme of Turkey which has an annual planning level of $1,000,000 or less. The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board approve the amount of $4,500,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $15,500,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2001 to 2005.

* E/ICEF/2000/14

** The original country note provided only indicative figures for estimated programme cooperation. The figures provided in the present addendum are final and take into account unspent balances of programme cooperation at the end of 1999. They will be contained in the summary of recommendations for regular resources and other resources programmes (E/ICEF/2000/P/L.27).

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## Basic data

(1998 unless otherwise stated)

| | |
|---|---|
| Child population (millions, under 18 years) | 23.0 |
| U5MR (per 1,000 live births) | 42 |
| IMR (per 1,000 live births) | 37 |
| Underweight (% moderate and severe) (1995) | 10 |
| Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births) (1981) | 130 |
| Literacy (% male/female) (1995) | 92/72 |
| Primary school enrolment/attendance (% net, male/female) (1994, 1993) | 98/94, 74/71 |
| Primary school children reaching grade 5 (%) (1994) | 89 |
| Access to safe water (%) (1995) | 49 |
| Routine EPI vaccines financed by Government (%) (1996) | 100 |
| GNP per capita (US$) (1997) | 3 130 |
| One-year-olds fully immunized against: | |
| Tuberculosis | 73 per cent |
| Diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus | 79 per cent |
| Measles | 76 per cent |
| Poliomyelitis | 79 per cent |
| Pregnant women immunized against tetanus | 32 per cent |

## The situation of children and women

1. The analysis of the situation of children and women remains essentially the same as described in the country note submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2000 (E/ICEF/2000/P/L.17).

## Programme cooperation, 1997–2000

2. The 1997-2000 programme of cooperation (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.35/Add.1) supported the implementation of the Turkey's National Development Plan (1996-2000) and included the following components: civil society mobilization, community and non-governmental organization (NGO) participation in actions for children and women; the reduction of socio-economic disparities among regions and within urban areas; social research and monitoring of children's rights; and planning and policy development to address strategic and legislative issues concerning the survival, development and protection of children and women.

3. The programme focused on advocacy for the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. UNICEF advocated with the Government for the adoption of policy and administrative measures in health and education, particularly those related to early childhood development and women's literacy.

4. In December 1999, the President of Turkey launched a campaign to promote the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which included the National Congress for Children (April 2000). This forum, with participation of the Government, NGOs, research institutions, and children's and youth groups from the 81 provinces, discussed the problems of children's rights. Recommendations of the Congress were submitted to the President. Under the campaign, new instruments to improve the monitoring of children's rights in Turkey were developed.

5. UNICEF support of national policy and administrative reforms resulted in the adoption of the law on the iodization of salt for human consumption (1998). Closer cooperation on the problems of children in need of special protection, including street children

in urban areas, has been established among civil society organizations, local authorities and judicial bodies. New alliances with the Ministry of Justice, women parliamentarians, academe, local authorities and NGOs have also been established. In 1999, the President of Turkey and the UNICEF Executive Director launched the Child Information Network in Ankara, an internet site that provides information on the situation of children and women in Turkey.

6. In order to reduce regional and intra-urban disparities, UNICEF supported nutrition education, out-of-season growing of food crops and the establishment of clean drinking water facilities in the eastern and central provinces. Education and income-generation activities for women were supported. UNICEF participated in projects on health and hygiene education, and in the training of teachers on Facts for Life and of health volunteers among primary school children. UNICEF provided educational materials and training for teachers to improve children's learning in 20 rural schools. The training of 250 mothers in two pilot provinces to improve their knowledge of early childhood care (ECC), nutrition, and psychosocial and cognitive stimulation was undertaken. UNICEF assistance strengthened intersectoral collaboration, enhanced local planning and monitoring capacities, and improved community participation in designing and implementing activities for children and women.

7. UNICEF supported participatory research with some 450 children living and working on the streets in six cities. Research analysis and findings are used to develop programme approaches on the empowerment and participation of children. An evaluation of area-based management of basic services was undertaken to identify successful approaches in decentralized planning and resource mobilization for children. The results of the study are being considered in the development of materials and training modules for local capacity-building in decentralized planning.

8. UNICEF promoted the development of sustainable social policies and innovative strategies in immunization and the prevention of iodine deficiency. In the immunization programme, cooperation-supported actions have resulted in the protection of 79 per cent of children against six immuno-preventable diseases. In addition to the routine immunization of children, UNICEF-supported polio eradication efforts included national immunization days, acute flaccid paralysis surveillance, mopping-up activities, training and social mobilization.

9. UNICEF, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), supported the development of the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) initiative that involved the orientation of health personnel and adaptation of training materials. The Government adopted the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI), and 81 state and 3 private hospitals were certified as baby-friendly. UNICEF experience in the pilot project on HIV/AIDS prevention through peer education in Istanbul will be used in the development of the national strategic plan on HIV/AIDS prevention.

10. UNICEF supported important initiatives to reduce the high rate of illiteracy among girls and women. UNICEF, in cooperation with the World Bank, supported the expansion of the universal primary education project for 24,000 students in 276 schools. UNICEF advocacy contributed to the Government adoption of eight years of compulsory primary education (from the previous five years). Some 45,000 mothers and child caregivers gained a better knowledge of child development, health and nutrition from training activities in 51 provinces. The Ministry of National Education has made mothers' training activities a regular programme.

11. UNICEF introduced initiatives in child protection especially related to the improved juvenile justice system, and supported the training of judiciary and other personnel of child courts, guards, and professionals of juvenile detention and reformatory centres. UNICEF promoted awareness-raising of police on child rights, and the development of a manual for police working with children.

12. In partnership with other United Nations and international agencies, UNICEF responded to the emergency needs of the victims of the two devastating earthquakes in the north-west of Turkey in 1999. Within the recovery plan for children in Turkey, UNICEF provided technical and operational support in water and sanitation, education, psychosocial rehabilitation, health and nutrition. The recovery plan, originally budgeted at $10.8 million, received funds from 17 National Committees for UNICEF and 11 Governments amounting to $15.2 million.

## Lessons learned from past cooperation

13. In addition to the lessons presented in the country note, UNICEF experience from the implementation of the earthquake recovery plan points out the need for a national disaster preparedness plan to ensure the immediate delivery of a package of basic services to the affected population, particularly children and mothers. Emergency operations also show the importance of enhanced inter-agency and multisectoral cooperation, and highlight the importance of involving the affected population. The UNICEF-introduced child-friendly environment concept proved to be an effective means of providing basic services in disaster areas.

## Country programme preparation process

14. The preparation of the country programme of cooperation between the Government of Turkey and UNICEF for 2001-2005 involved the participation of seven ministries, the State Planning Organization, the State Institute of Statistics, academic institutions and civil society representatives under the Child Intersectoral Board chaired by the Ministry of Health. The process commenced with the preparation of the comprehensive "Situation Report on the Children and Women of Turkey" by a 45-member committee created by the Board. Working groups composed of 150 agency representatives formulated the programme strategies and developed the master plan of operations.

15. UNICEF and the Intersectoral Board conducted a series of consultations with the other United Nations agencies, including WHO, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), financial institutions and donor organizations such as the World Bank and European Union. The country programming process was undertaken in close consultation with the inter-agency United Nations team working on the formulation of the United Nations Common Country Assessment (CCA) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

## Country programme goals and objectives

16. The 2001-2005 programme of cooperation aims to contribute to the development of an environment that allows children and women to fulfil their rights. This involves the integration of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women into national and local development policies and plans, with appropriate budgeting of resources and monitoring systems. The programme is built around a rights-based approach based on the principles of the above-mentioned Conventions.

17. The main programme objectives are: (a) to contribute to the achievement of unmet year 2000 goals of the World Summit for Children and of the National Plan of Action (NPA) for Children, in particular those related to infant and child health, malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency, primary school enrolment, women's literacy and reproductive health; (b) to increase the knowledge and ability of families to provide early childhood care and development; and (c) to contribute to the reduction of regional, intra-urban and gender disparities. These objectives will be measured against the Quality of Life for All indicators developed in Turkey.

## Relation to national and international priorities

18. The country programme was developed in close consultation with the working group involved in the ongoing formulation of the National Five-Year Development Plan. Thus, national priorities related to children and women have been considered in the drafting of the country programme. In 1999, the devastation caused by the two earthquakes led to an increased recognition of the vulnerability of children and women during national disasters. This raised the urgency for a national programme to address children's and women's needs in emergency situations.

19. The country programme's holistic approach to child survival, development, protection and participation is consistent with UNICEF corporate priorities of the medium-term plan (E/ICEF/1998/13 and Corr.1) and future priority actions for children,

## Recommended programme cooperation, 2001-2005

### Estimated annual expenditure

**(In thousands of United States dollars)**

| | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Regular resources | | | | | | |
| Early childhood care | 230 | 225 | 225 | 225 | 225 | 1 130 |
| Child and adolescent development and protection | 140 | 135 | 135 | 135 | 135 | 680 |
| Policy development and social mobilization | 320 | 310 | 311 | 312 | 312 | 1 565 |
| Cross-sectoral costs | 225 | 225 | 225 | 225 | 225 | 1 125 |
| **Subtotal** | **915** | **895** | **896** | **897** | **897** | **4 500** |
| Other resources | | | | | | |
| Early childhood care | 895 | 1 253 | 1 431 | 1 431 | 1 190 | 6 200 |
| Child and adolescent development and protection | 895 | 1 253 | 1 431 | 1 431 | 1 190 | 6 200 |
| Policy development and social mobilization | 224 | 313 | 358 | 358 | 297 | 1 550 |
| Cross-sectoral costs | 224 | 313 | 358 | 358 | 297 | 1 550 |
| **Subtotal** | **2 238** | **3 132** | **3 578** | **3 578** | **2 974** | **15 500** |
| **Total** | **3 138** | **4 032** | **4 478** | **4 478** | **3 874** | **20 000** |

which promote the participation of youth and adolescents to fully develop their capacities. In addition, the country's rights-based consciousness is expected to lend importance to the ongoing and planned advocacy activities to promote children's and women's rights.

### Programme strategies

20. The programme strategies are built on the results of cooperation and lessons learned in the previous cycle. UNICEF will focus on enhancing the ability of families and communities to provide care and protection for children and adolescents. While the Government, NGOs, and bilateral and multilateral agencies such as the World Bank and European Union are focusing on expanding the "supply side" of social services at the national level, UNICEF will be gradually shifting its technical support to the "demand side", including through the empowerment of families and communities, and enhancing the participation of children in the implementation and monitoring of their rights.

21. Within the rights-based approach, UNICEF will advocate for policy development at the national level in support of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Special attention will be given to strengthening the capacity of national and local institutions for children and women.

22. Building on the experience gained from previous cooperations, UNICEF will aim at enhancing local capacities in the five regions with the worst socio-economic indicators. The programme will support national and local policy development and capacity-building in the areas of health and the development of adolescents and children in need of special protection. UNICEF will continue to facilitate strategic alliances to enable governmental and civil society organizations, particularly professional and community-based ones, and donor agencies to work together in support of

children's and women's rights. UNICEF will continue to address gender disparities, in particular the education of girls, through advocacy and civil society empowerment.

23. The overall programme strategy is consistent with UNDAF and will build on already established modalities and structures of cooperation with the other United Nations agencies.

24. *ECC*. This programme component is designed to: (a) provide a healthy start in the critical stage of life to infants and young children (0-8 years old); (b) enable children to be physically and mentally healthy, as well as socially and emotionally secure; and (c) prepare children so that they can take full advantage of basic education. It will be implemented through the provision of cost-effective services in health, and psychosocial and cognitive development of children.

25. In the area of maternal and child health (MCH), UNICEF will support activities that seek to enhance the abilities of families and communities to provide better MCH care and nutrition. Together with WHO, UNICEF will continue to support the IMCI initiative that involves household outreach activities. In cooperation with the International Children's Centre in Turkey, UNICEF will support efforts on the prevention of infant deaths, especially the highly prevalent perinatal and neonatal deaths.

26. The coverage of childhood immunization in Turkey has declined, and while poliomyelitis has not yet been eradicated, there have been no cases of acute flaccid paralysis since November 1998. Therefore, UNICEF will aim at enhancing family participation and improving the outreach immunization services through the provision of information and education materials as well as operational support. The technical training of health personnel in immunization services will be continued, and efficient polio vaccine procurement, surveillance and monitoring systems will be established.

27. UNICEF will support the establishment of a national nutrition committee, the development of a national nutrition strategy and an intersectoral action plan. This component will address protein-energy malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency problems, particularly in the regions with the worst indicators. UNICEF will continue to support policy measures and awareness-raising of iron fortification and the prevention of iodine deficiency disorders, and assure better monitoring of public compliance to the salt iodization law. In order to promote breastfeeding practices, UNICEF will assist in the organization and monitoring of community-based mothers' support groups. Implementation of BFHI will be supported through the training of health professionals, advocacy for the national adoption of the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes and improved monitoring.

28. Special attention will be given to expanding family knowledge of child-care practices. UNICEF will support nationwide expansion of the ongoing parenting programmes of the Ministries of National Education, Health and Agriculture, the General Directorate for Social Services and the Protection of Children, and NGOs. Support will be provided for the establishment of an inter-agency committee and adaptation of existing education materials.

29. *Child and adolescent development and protection*. This component is designed for children in the 9- to 18-year-old age group and aims to develop their capacities in a safe and enabling environment. UNICEF will address the poverty-related problems affecting young people, such as lack of family and community support and the consequences of rapid urbanization. The target groups include school-age children, adolescents and young people, children who drop out or are at risk of dropping out of school, children living and working on the street, children and youth in conflict with the law, and children and youth at risk of HIV/AIDS and drug abuse.

30. In cooperation with the other United Nations agencies, UNICEF will promote the concept of a child-friendly learning environment and young people's health and development, and will provide assistance to children in need of special protection. The UNICEF-assisted programme also aims at achieving the Education for All goals, including through increasing school enrolment and reducing school drop-out, and the promotion of a child-friendly learning environment.

31. UNICEF will support strategies to improve the provision of services for children, both in and out of school, to improve outreach to families and communities. Main activities will include in-service training for professionals in improved child-centred and participatory methodologies. Special attention will be given to increasing the involvement of families and communities in monitoring enrolment, retention and

learning achievements. Girls whose enrolment and attendance ratios are lower than those of boys, children at risk of dropping out, children in detention and reformatory centres, and children living and working on the street will be reached on a priority basis. UNICEF will support strengthening of parent-teacher associations, develop linkages with the ILO/International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour project, and continue to collaborate with the Development Foundation of Turkey in support of the educational needs of working children.

32. The UNICEF-assisted programme will support a series of studies on the problems of adolescents to guide the development of preventive strategies. UNICEF will support activities related to the prevention of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, smoking, and drug and substance abuse. These will be done through the promotion of life skills education, the introduction of new training methodologies for formal and non-formal education systems, peer education, and enhanced collaboration between NGO partners and universities. The programme will provide for capacity-building of the Ministry of Health and the General Directorate for Social Services and Child Protection in counselling services for adolescents and young people. UNICEF will collaborate with UNFPA and the International Children's Centre in Turkey in research and awareness-raising activities related to reproductive health among young people.

33. In collaboration with the policy makers and other programme partners, UNICEF will support policy and legislative reforms responding to the problems of children in need of special protection. The UNICEF-assisted programme will support advocacy activities and public education on children living and working on the street, and children with learning needs. UNICEF will provide technical assistance for improving the juvenile justice system to enable it to respond to the needs of children and young people in conflict with the law, including in-service training and materials development. Support will be assured in the establishment of national and provincial inter-agency committees on children in need of special protection. These committees will be coordinated by the Department of Social Welfare and will have representatives from the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Health, Education, the General Directorate for Youth and Sports, television and radio companies, universities and NGOs.

34. *Policy development and social mobilization.* This cross-sectoral programme component will support the development of the legislative, policy, administrative and funding framework for the fulfilment of children's and women's rights. It will seek the cooperation of the entire United Nations system to support efforts that address the reduction of regional and intra-urban disparities, capacity-building of central and provincial institutions, and NGOs to deal with the problems of children and women, decentralized programme management, and community and family empowerment.

35. Special attention will be given to local capacity-building in decentralized programme management. UNICEF will support the nationwide replication of successful approaches for child survival, development and protection in area-based management of basic services. Training materials on decentralized planning and resource mobilization will be developed for ongoing pre-service and in-service training programmes of the Ministry of Interior for provincial and district governors. UNICEF will support the development of efficient advocacy strategies and monitoring of progress in human development throughout the country using the Quality of Life for All indicators developed to monitor the areas of health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, protection, family income and security.

36. UNICEF-supported social mobilization activities will be based on the results of the assessment of the awareness of government officials, media, NGOs, parents and community leaders of the two the Conventions. UNICEF will support the development of education and information materials to be used in awareness-raising activities. UNICEF will also support advocacy events such as the annual National Congress for Children and the Women's and Children's Forum. Alliances with and among civil society organizations and research institutions will be enhanced through network-building meetings and seminars for the media, university professors and students. UNICEF will provide technical assistance for the expansion of the Child Information Network into the Child, Youth and Women Information Network.

37. Learning from the experience of the earthquake emergency operations and recovery plan, UNICEF will support the preparation of the disaster and emergency

preparedness plan and further develop the concept of a child-friendly environment. An operations manual on an integrated package of services (health, nutrition, psychosocial counselling, education, child and youth care, and water and environmental sanitation (WES)) will be designed to mitigate the impact of disasters on children and women in the selected 56 high-risk provinces. UNICEF will also support local capacity-building in assessment and planning for disaster and emergency preparedness.

## Monitoring and evaluation

38. UNICEF will support the development of an Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan at three levels: (a) programme and project monitoring and evaluation; (b) monitoring of goals through Quality of Life for All indicators at regional and provincial levels; and (c) children's rights monitoring. Programme monitoring will assess management and implementation efficiency through annual reviews that will be coordinated by the Child Intersectoral Board.

39. The Ministry of Interior will coordinate regional- and provincial-level monitoring of the 27 Quality of Life for All indicators, including on health, nutrition, education, WES, protection, family income and security, and local budget allocation for children and women-related programmes. The General Directorate for Social Services and Child Protection will coordinate monitoring implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. UNICEF will facilitate the role of the annual National Congress for Children as a forum for the assessment of the challenges of child survival, development and protection. UNICEF will support academic institutions in undertaking applied research, the collection and analysis of data, and updates on the situation of children and women.

## Collaboration with partners

40. UNICEF will work closely with other United Nations agencies through the United Nations resident coordinator system to harmonize programme planning and execution within UNDAF. UNICEF cooperation structures as well as its contribution to the preparation of the CCA will be built around the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

41. UNICEF will collaborate with ILO on formulating an NPA for the elimination of worst forms of child labour, including the development of alternative education for working children; with UNHCR on promoting a child-friendly environment in refugee camps; with UNFPA and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS theme group on adolescent health and development, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention; with UNDP on local governance, gender and development, disaster preparedness and girls' education; with WHO and FAO on the development of a national nutrition strategy and surveillance system; and with WHO on eradicating polio, implementing IMCI, strengthening immunization, supporting health promotion in schools and improving primary health care.

42. UNICEF will continue to work with the World Bank in education and disaster-preparedness programmes, and with the European Union in providing support to juvenile justice system. UNICEF will maintain collaboration with the Turkish National Committee for UNICEF in private fund-raising activities and advocacy, and will continue good relations with other major donors established during the earthquake relief and recovery activities. UNICEF will establish cooperation with the International Children's Centre in Turkey in conducting studies, particularly in health and nutrition. UNICEF will widen its working relations with NGOs, the academic sector, media, the private sector and Parliament in the promotion of the two Conventions.

## Programme management

43. In order to assure more efficient and cost-effective planning, implementation, monitoring and management of the new country programme, the UNICEF office structure will be organized around new programme priorities (ECC, child and adolescent development and protection, policy development and social mobilization) and the requirements of cross-sectoral linkages.

44. The Child Intersectoral Board, which is composed of high-level representatives from seven Ministries, the State Planning Organization, the State Institute of Statistics and other academic institutions,